

## THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Tuesday, September 26, 1916.

## Rock Island—From River to River.

Russian cables are bringing \$250 a pair. We are trading Ford autos for them.

Hughes is a reactionary in matters of taxation. Taxation is the chief power of government.

Governor Whitman of New York has a chance to show a republican chief can solve a traction strike, too.

Of course you should expect Rumania, as any other belligerent, to burn in on the atrocity charges.

Dual monarchy statesmen are not ready to send a successor to Dr. Dumba. The average American seldom remembers that there is a vacancy in the Austro-Hungarian embassy; yet it should be filled.

One of the New York hotels has abandoned tips for hats and wraps. The precedent is a good one for other metropolitan hotels to follow. What they would gain in the good will of guests would more than compensate for what is after all, a minor sort of revenue.

All that disconcerted republican newspapers and party leaders can say is, "Just wait, you'll find in good time what his issues will be and what he would have done." This wait from July 31 to the present time has not given the country much enlightenment on the subject.

If Lord Kitchener were alive he could point with pride and at the same time with sorrow to his prophecy that the European war would run three or more years. The war is now past the first lap in its third year, with no apparent sign of its ending within a year. Lord Kitchener's prophecy is likely to be fulfilled.

Who held up the country? The 90 leading railroad companies who realized 45 per cent increase in net earnings for the first half of 1916 and refused to give their men any share in the prosperity unless the president would guarantee the companies an increase in freight rates. The holdup was attempted by the buccannery of big business, and congress called their bluff.

## CANAL LOSES MONEY.

The extent to which the slide in the Panama canal damaged this country in a financial way is shown in the report for the fiscal year ending with June. There were only five months of normal shipping out of the 12. The tolls collected amounted to \$2,339,000. The cost of operation and maintenance was close to \$7,000,000.

In the first year of the canal's operation the revenue was \$4,343,000, which left a profit of a quarter of a million dollars.

In these statistics we understand that interest on the investment of some \$375,000,000 and depreciation are not considered. The defensive nature of the canal is considered as "value received" for that.

The slides of last September closed the canal at a most inopportune time, just when the war to neutral shipping. The United States has no thought to making a profit out of the canal but the deficit of last year makes it difficult to break even for several years to come.

## TO HALT CORRUPTION.

One of the first bills to be introduced in the next general assembly will be a corrupt practices act, one with teeth in it. That much was decided at a conference of democratic leaders at Springfield last week. Whether Governor Dunne is reelected or not the last ounce of pressure will be used to prevent the repetition of such a money spending orgy as Lowden and his friends have made of their primary campaign.

If a corrupt practices law, a real one, was enforced in Illinois, some men would be on their way to the penitentiary. The framing of this proposed bill will be left to a group of democrats and progressive republicans who have joined in angry protest over the shameful violation of the spirit and intent of the primary law. A careful study will be made of the Wisconsin statute, which is said to be the most drastic and far reaching of its kind in the country. There are effective laws in other states also and Illinois seems to have been far behind in this respect.

The opportunities for corruption were never fully realized until the late primary campaign. It is estimated that in a two year campaign for the nomination, Lowden and his friends spent more than \$1,000,000. How is this divided? To purchase a vote is a penitentiary crime, but it is not a crime "to hire" workers on election day. On that last primary election day there was no excuse for idleness. There was a bid for the services of many men and for many women, for there is no limit in the use of money for this purpose. Nobody in Chicago saw so many "workers" as

appeared for Lowden on election day to how much work was done after voting, everybody may have a guess. Think of the financial sources ready to be tapped. There is the great Pullman company to which Colonel Lowden is closely related. A company that pays its porters only \$26.50 a month should be liberal with its dividends to the family of the founder. But besides there was a statement from Colonel Smith's headquarters that allied with Lowden and supporting him were representatives of the Standard Oil millions, the United States Steel corporation millions, the Allen millions, the stock yards millions and the public utilities millions.

It is up to the people to decide whether they want "big business" to run the state's business at Springfield for the next four years.

## HITCH WON'T DO.

Eastern progressives have served notice upon Mr. Hughes' campaign managers that they will neither accept nor countenance Frank H. Hitchcock's participation in the Hughes presidential candidacy.

The North American, which is still nominally supporting Mr. Hughes, but which confesses that its position is neither "comfortable" nor "inspiring," condemns the selection of Mr. Hitchcock as a member of Chairman Wilcox's advisory board as "the most severe jolt progressive republicans have recently received."

The shock caused by this," says the North American, "is not lessened at all by the conviction that the chairman of the national committee and probably Mr. Hughes himself sincerely believe that Hitchcock does represent the progressive republicans and that they are pleased with his inclusion in the list of so-called campaign managers."

"But there is not a real progressive republican from Colonel Roosevelt down to the humblest voter who does not know that Hitchcock is no more progressive than is Senator Penrose or Murray Crane, and who is not won'ting from what aspect of the matter the chairman of the national committee gained the opinion and transmitted it to Mr. Hughes that the progressives wanted anything to do with Hitchcock, or could be gratified in any way by his appointment on the campaign committee."

"The indignities attributed to Hitchcock, because he was postmaster general in Taft's cabinet, much of the manipulation which brought the federal office holders to Chicago in 1912 to force the nomination of Taft by that convention. They are convinced that the national committee performed to bring about the nomination of Hughes at Chicago it was performed by Hitchcock."

"In view of all the circumstances, this appointment of Hitchcock as a progressive, and for the reported purpose of dealing with progressive in the campaign, is likely to cause harm to the Hughes candidacy, unless the progressives can be persuaded to overlook it as another blunder due to the ignorance and inexperience of Mr. Hughes' campaign managers."

## UNEXAMINED OUTRAGE.

Says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat a republican newspaper:

"The preparation for the republican national committee of a film showing President Wilson asleep at his desk in Washington while struggling nuns were being carried by raiders into the bushes from a convent in northern Mexico is such an outrage on decency as the annals of partisanship cannot match."

"It had been supposed by democrats that the slogan 'Anything to beat Wilson' meant simply anything within the rather indefinite bounds of republican partisan decorum. It was not guessed that the words were to be taken literally as sanctioning outrages on public morals repugnant to the president and the general character to revolt every decent citizen of the republic."

"The authorities of the state in which these pictures were prepared should see to it that the laws against lewd and immoral acts are enforced. The alleged participation of members of the national guard in the preparation of the film should be the subject of instant investigation, and, if the facts warrant, of action by a suitable number of court-martials. As for the republican national committee, the American public will take its case in hand and due to the general and record a verdict. That body had been indistinguishable thus far in the campaign; it now has the distinction of having set a mark well below the zero on the gauge of political decency."

## NEW MARKETS.

The world's commercial geography is being rewritten in a most sweeping fashion for Americans. As an instance, China suddenly looms as a great lumber market in the future. American lumbermen, having looked into Japan, have turned their eyes to China. They believe that the new market will have exhausted their timber resources in a decade and that the yellow millions, forswearing bamboo in the south provinces and hard woods in the north of China, will become users of American soft woods. All of which makes the wisdom of the American who acquired Alaska's forests half a century ago most impressive.

China as a lumber market is only one fact out of many pressing themselves on American attention out of the far east and the regions back of the five seas. The English and American journals printed in the Orient reflect on every page the swelling growth, the bigness of development in Mongolia, Manchuria, the western Chinese provinces, Russia, the Philippines and even those regions that look westward on the great deserts of the Tartars. There are markets take it, and thousands of things in these old lands that are being touched by the outer world. Markets partially developed by Europeans prior to the war are now crying out for buyers of products and sellers of factory wares.

The war has dragged on, giving the American his chance if he will take it, and if the open door is not suddenly closed. When Eurasian armies go back to the mines, fields and shops, the door of uncontented opportunity in the Orient will swing to for the American and he must fight for what he has. In the meantime the manufacturer and the would-be exporter is getting new glimpses at strange markets and is finding the world of commerce to be only partially explored from an American viewpoint.

## Selected by Tavenner



To the Readers of The Argus:

The Argus has generously agreed to permit me to make a regular contribution under this head, to use the space as if it were my own. I am left free to make my selection from where I will, whether it is timely or untimely; to search the highways and the byways for what may impress me as of interest and value to the people.

I assure my readers I shall try to make the most of the opportunity. To do so I must forget that party lines exist, and I will, just as I wish it might be practical for them not to exist and that the practical issue on election day might be not whether a candidate belongs to this or that political party, but whether he is willing to serve the masses of the people or the few who exploit them.

In other words, my idea is to submit information or a thought that I would give to the world if I myself edited a newspaper, the only mission of which was to serve mankind; to do this and nothing more.

When I personally write the contribution, I will sign it, and when I present the thought and work of others I will so indicate.

## WHEN GENIUS DIES.

Too much thought is being directed to the great material losses the world is sustaining in the present European war. Too little is being cast toward the many thinkers and doers who are falling victims to the fury of enemies. Cities can be replaced. Battleships can be rebuilt. Forts can be reconstructed. Human life can increase. But think of the men of mature years whose wisdom is being lost forever. Scientists, painters, poets, writers, professional men of widely noted skill, jurists, statesmen, the possessors of minor and major genius. How well the world make up the void their deaths create?

Buried deep in graves in Belgium, in France, in Russia, in Germany, along the borders of many lands lies the large thought of the world that kindles progress. It will take a generation to replace the ranks of geniuses who have taken wood and steel and the imagery of marvelous brains and made engines of power; who combined chemicals to the needs of man; who wrote and painted the emotions of our time, or breathed national aspirations into the minds of the people.

War is a ghastly thing when it sweeps away mere numbers. It is truly horrible when it takes away the very flower of advanced races. It will require the labor of generations, the sweat and highest endeavor of thousands yet unborn to make up the material losses of the war. But the great and lamentable thing is that first is lost the adventurous, from whose loins should spring a hardy generation; then the sturdy defenders of hearth and home, and finally the highest and best of nations are swept into internal chaos.

This is a loss which will be felt to the world's progress in thought and deed.—Kansas City Post.



## CROSS EYES AND SPECTACLES.

Persistent strabismus (cross eye) is a condition which can be properly treated by a single visit to the specialist.

Mothers usually date the appearance of a squint in children from an illness with measles, whooping cough or other childhood disease. But more probably squint begins gradually. At first the child squints only occasionally. Later, after months, there is alternating squint. Usually, when a child squints, the trouble may appear at any age from six months up to six or seven years.

If squint is neglected there may be a total loss of vision in one eye. Many cross eyed individuals go blind in one eye because of this neglect.

Any child old enough to squint is old enough to wear glasses to correct the defect of vision that causes the squint. A child of two years is none the less old enough to wear glasses. Results are obtained by applying suitable glasses to babies a year old. If glasses are not applied until the child can read test types, the unused eye may go blind by that time. Of course, this matter is one for an oculist, a patient who knows how to examine a child, and not the average mother.

In the earliest stage of squint, the use of atropine in both eyes for a few days often effects a cure, but only a physician skilled in eye work can manage this safely.

If the child refuses to wear spectacles, it is because the lenses are incorrect or the frame is poorly adjusted. A young child is a difficult patient to examine, for the reason that it is hard to persuade him to focus his eyes on anything long enough to permit the necessary examination of the retina. Persistence is required, and persistence in the after-treatment. The oculist must see the child regularly after the glasses are fitted. The family physician can help.

## WHAT TAFT LEFT.

In his criticism of President Wilson's Mexican policy, Mr. Taft takes account of nothing but money and the letter of the law. If Huerta stood for justice and democracy, it was nothing to Mr. Taft that the dictator gained office by assassination, and that by so doing he imprisoned congress and closed the courts. Enough constitutional officers having been murdered or forced to resign to give the usurper a de facto title as provisional president, Mr. Taft was ready to recognize him and would have done so, he says, if his administration had not been so near an end.

This sordid view never occurred to President Wilson. He saw millions of people struggling blindly for liberty and land. He saw the one hope that they had of success extinguished when their lawful president and vice president were shot in the back. It was not the troubles of predatory wealth but the sorrows and wrongs of an oppressed nation that aroused his impulse was not, like that of Mr. Taft, to close his eyes to a monstrous crime and look only at the cash register, but to avenge the justice and by kindly offices to restore to an impoverished and enslaved population the rudimentary rights of humanity.

Because Mr. Taft had interest in nothing but property in Mexico, it is not truly said that he hesitated a difficult problem to his successor.

## EFFECTS OF CHILD LABOR.

The outstanding point about child labor is its detrimental physical effects on the victims. The most casual view of the underfed and undersized child workers in southern mills, the arrested mental and physical development of thousands among the many other children who toil, are convincing enough. These things alone were sufficient argument for the passage of the Keating-Owen child labor bill.

Dr. Scott Nearing, whose statistics on labor-economics are classics, recently issued a statement showing conclusively a study made of English child workers. The basis of the investigation was the sorry showing made physically by Englishmen who wanted to enlist for the Boer war. England merely investigated the matter. It did not act. It now finds itself with a momentary wrench in its hands. Its neglect recoils on itself.

Hundreds of thousands of men of fighting age have been rejected for infirmities due neither to habits nor accident. "Preparedness" of industrial workers by paying the sort of wages that bring good food, hours that give adequate rest and other conditions vital to the health of the nation through its toilers were not in the horizon of the British mind. Let Dr. Nearing tell the result.

"According to that report there were the most astonishing differences in physical and mental well-being between the children of the well-to-do and the children of the poor. In every great industrial center of the British Isles where investigations were conducted, the committee found that the height and weight, physical health and mental ability among the children of the poor were far below those of the children of the well-to-do."—Kansas City Post.



It is claimed that yeast is one of the few necessities that hasn't risen out of the mire of the war. Of course you will argue that yeast does not have to be raised; that it rises without assistance. It makes no difference, however, it still raises the dough.

## CHORDS AND DISCORDS

FIFTY-FIVE men and 17 women who have just enrolled as students at the University of Indiana state that they bath only once a week. In other words, these young persons have gone to school to study and not to waste their time wallowing in the water.

CARRANZA has renewed his pledge to the United States to destroy Villa. And Villa will probably light a cigar and take another Mexican city.

AN automobile turned a somersault in Chicago, alighting right side up on all four wheels, with loss of some paint, the total damage. The name of the car? Correct.

RUSSIA, having adopted prohibition, will hardly have use for any of those Peoria tanks.

"THEY remind me of cockroaches," says State's Attorney Hoyne, referring to a few Chicago professional brethren who are seeking his indictment. Well, he might as well get to the old never failing household remedy.

"SEE by my paper," writes Gwendolyn, "that Mr. Grapes was the only passenger that came over on the White Star liner Celtic which has just docked at New York. The remarkable thing to me is that he wasn't soured a bit by his loneliness."

FOUR thousand bankers are in Kansas City this week for their national convention. Doubtless a great amount of interest attaches to this gathering.

WILSON stock is going up. He has just been endorsed by the Poles of Chicago. That ought to make Hughes dig.

THE Pinchot boys are the real pinch hitters of the presidential campaign. No matter which party wins one is sure to get on. Gift is for Hughes and Ames is for Wilson.

JOHN D. Rockefeller filled his pockets with pennies before going to church last Sunday. When he returned home his pockets were empty. No, dear reader, John had not been robbed, as you would naturally infer. He had given the pennies to the children he met in church. Others have given coppers to children, in larger numbers, and no fuss was made over the matter, but because John D. did so he drew a first page position in the metropolitan dailies. You see the fact that John scattered money about with a sonnet, it may yet be necessary for his wife to search him before he leaves for church in future lest he become a scandalous spendthrift.

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## Just As Easy.

Two women were talking. "I see that members of labor unions have been ordered by their organizations not to ride on the street cars of New York pending settlement of the strike."

"I wouldn't think they would pay any attention to such an order."

"But they must. If they persist in riding on the cars they are notified and reported. There are thousands of pickets watching the cars."

"But how can they distinguish a man who belongs to a labor society from one who doesn't?"

"Oh, that's easy—by his union suit."

IF your work doesn't show your age, nobody gives a tinker's dam if you are gray; we buy what's in your head, not what's on it.—Chicago American.

"FAR be it from me," postcards Ignatz from "somewhere on the Burlington" to keep harping on the same subject, but you must have noticed that they had a disastrous frost in Wisconsin simultaneous with the invasion of that state by Candidate Hughes. Newspaper reports say the damage to the tobacco crop alone was a cool million bucks. Chairman Williams might put that in his pipe and smoke it."

NOT to be outdone by Taft and Roosevelt, two of Illinois' stalwarts of the opposite political faith have buried their differences. Reference is had to Roger Sullivan and Governor Dunne. Only the two latter staged their hatched-burying ceremony in public, walking arm in arm in full view of the crowds at the state fair. The Roosevelt-Taft reunion is to be a private affair, with the onlookers confined to the pallovers and immediate mourners. It is understood that the bull moose will be officially slaughtered and the steam roller wrecked. And it's a safe bet that the colored will reserve the horns and the judge the steering gear of the s. r.

## We're Discovered.

Just to prove to you that you are not putting anything over on your readers I am enclosing you a verbatim report of a conversation I heard the other day between two young women.

"I think The Argus is a fine paper."

"So do I. We've taken it at our house as long as I can remember."

"Ain't Mrs. Thompson grand?"

"I guess so, but I don't care much for the love stuff. I like Doc Brady and 'Chords and Discords' best."

"You mean you read the 'Discords' first and then turn to Doc Brady to get straightened out?"

"My no. They are both good."

"What I mean is that the doctor is original in his writing. Them 'Discords' is mostly taken from the almanac and the Ladies' Home Journal."

V. E. L.

YOU may, or you may not, attach any significance to the fact that we had a shower yesterday afternoon just as the main delegation to the state convention of the Illinois Retail Liquor Dealers' association arrived in the city. It is to be hoped that the delegates will not overlook this incident in passing resolutions acknowledging the heartiness of the welcome accorded them in Rock Island.

J. M. C.

## The Daily Story

The Old Speckled Hen—By M. Quad.

The Thompsons and the Browns, farmers, had been neighbors for 10 years, when in the same year Abel Thompson was left a widower and Martha Brown a widow. Plenty of people said it would be a natural thing for the two to marry after a year or so, but what the principals in the case thought of it did not come out for over two years. The farmer and the widow saw each other every day during this time. She continued to run her farm by the help of a hired man, but he was more or less interested in her, and together they often talked of everything but what other people were talking about.

It was one evening in winter after the farmer had imbibed a quart of cider and eaten three or four apples and realized the loneliness of his own home that he hitched around on his chair for a while and then said:

"Widder, there was a windmill man along today. He wants to put up a mill for me in the spring."

"Yes, windmill men come along about once in so often," she replied.

"He 'pears to have a purty good mill."

"Yes?"

"And the price is purty reasonable."

"Yes?"

"We wasn't talkin' about windmills all the time," continued Abel, as he motioned for another glass of cider.

"We was talkin' about other things."

"They are great folks to gab. I've known 'em to hang around all day and do nothin' but talk."

"That windmill man said folks was wonderin' why I didn't git married ag'in."

"Well, why don't you go and git married then?"

"Gosh hang it, I will. That's what I come over here this evenin' for. Aunt Martha, we have known each other a long time. I know you are a mighty good woman, and you know I'm a purty good man. Our farms fine, and I can run two farms as well as one. You must be lonesome, too. If we fine forces then neither of us need have any more lonesomeness."

"Abel, stop right there," said the widow kindly but emphatically. "I know you to be a good man, but I ain't in love with you. You haven't taught my heart yet. Until you do I don't want to talk about marriage."

"Well," said the suitor as he rose up to go. "I ain't one to drive a woman into marriage as one drives hogs. I'll keep right on and take your word for it, and if you find you can't love me I'll sing single all the rest of my days. I'm kinder sot on you, you see, and I don't want anybody else."

During the next month things went along as usual and there was no further reference to matrimony. Then Abel was sent for, and as he reached the widow's house she said:

"Abel, my sister over at Tomkinsville is sick and has sent for me. I'm goin' over and may be gone three or four days."

"Well, I'll run things the best I can while you're gone," he replied.

"What I want you to look out for in particular is that old speckled hen. You know I've had her for the last 10 years, and I've learned to think a good deal of her. She ain't well 'all just now, and I hate to go away and leave her. She's got signs of the pils, and I should come back and find her dead. It would almost break my heart. Abel, I want you to be kind to her. I want you to sympathize with her. I want you to doctor and nurse her."

"I'll do it, Aunt Martha. I'll jest put in all my time nursin' her up. I'll be just as kind to her as I would be to a baby."

"That's good of you. She's only a critter, but when one gets used to a critter he can even love an old speckled hen. She ain't laid an egg for these five years past, but she's got a hold on my affections for the eggs she used to lay. Why, she's laid over a hundred with double yolks, and one time she it and licked a chicken hawk."

"You go right on, widder, and leave it all to me," said the farmer. "I'll jest as much for that old hen as I would for a brother. I ain't sot up a night for the last 20 years, but if she's taken bad I ain't close my eyes till you git back."

The widow departed and half an hour later Abel was carrying the old hen home under his arm. The three days went past, and the widow returned. She had only entered her house when the farmer appeared with the hen in a basket. He had her wrapped in red woolen cloths. She smelled of camphor and various liniments. Her toes had been trimmed and greased, and he had applied salve to her comb. With proud deliberateness he removed wrap after wrap and finally reached the last end and set the hen down on the floor with:

"There she is, Aunt Martha, and jest as good as she was five years ago. I've worked over her for three days, and I'm tellin' you there isn't a hen in the hull county can come up to her."

"How splendid of you, Abel—how splendid!" gasped the widow, and as if to corroborate her words the hen raised her head, swelled out her throat and tried to cackle.

"See that—that critter, widder?" asked Abel.

"Yes, I do, and, oh, Abel!"

"Is your heart heated, widder?"

"It is, and—"

"And you'll be mine?"

That was in March, and they were married in May, and the old speckled hen was alive at last accounts and making efforts to return to her duty.

## Day in Davenport

Call 4,021 on Jury Panels Next Two Years.—More than 4,000 persons will have their names placed on the panels of grand and petit juries and talemans for the next two years. County Auditor Ed Collins has prepared a table of the number to be called from each precinct. One hundred and fifty grand jurors will be called, 371 petit jurors, and 600 talemans from the city. The number required will be furnished the election boards this fall and will apply for the next two years. The numbers are based on the total vote at the last general election, which was 13,082.

Fifteen Are Baptized in Mississippi.—The American Baptist Workmen's guild Sunday at the river, where 15 members were baptized. In the evening holy communion was served and feet washing had. Meetings of the Rescue Workers are held in their hall, 905 West Second street, every evening at 7:30 o'clock. All are welcome.

Iron Overheats: Small Fire Damage.—When an electric iron overheated at the home of Frank Connelly, 533 College avenue, a small fire was started. Hose company No. 4 responded to the call and the fire was extinguished with small damage.

Raid Joint on City Island: Arrest Five.—Detectives Quinn and Eeles and Officers Kuehl, Ramm and Rogers raided the joint on city island conducted by John Schmidt. According to the police, many complaints had been received about the establishment. The proprietor, Schmidt, was placed under arrest and booked for being the keeper of a disorderly house. James Bennett, William Hillier, Harry Malone and Walter Gadient were nabbed and were charged with being inmates of the place.

Leases Part of Its New Building.—The Martin Woods company, which is building a fine, new, fireproof warehouse at Perry and Second streets, will retain the basement and first story of the new building for use in its own business. It has leased the second and third floors to the Merchants' Transfer & Storage company.

Rags Start Fire: Damage Not Large.—Fire starting in a barn occupied by Pearlstein & Rosenthal, at 122 West Second street, caused small damage. All downtown fire stations answered the call. Hose company No. 1 answered a call to a rubbish fire at Front and Rock Island streets.

Tries to Start Fight with Cop.—Frank Loomis, charged with intoxication, drew a 10-day jail sentence in police court. Loomis, according to Officer Rogers, who made the arrest, showed alarming pugilistic tendencies when picked up. He was standing in front of the Columbia theatre, the officer said, accosting every one who passed. "Becoming enraged," Loomis started a fight, and it was only after a sharp tussle that Officer Loomis was able to wrest his club from Loomis' hands.

Rev.